

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

The network interface device has multiple blocks having internal connections, and has an external interface. The network interface device is configurable to reroute one or more of the internal connections onto the external interface to allow testing of the blocks of the device. The external interface may also be coupled so as to pass data between the network interface device and higher levels in a network protocol stack. In an exemplary embodiment a network interface device has a media access controller (MAC) and a physical layer device (PHY). An internal media independent interface (MII) between the MAC and the PHY may be selectively rerouted to an external MII for independently testing operation of either the MAC or the PHY.

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